

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks and the foregoing amendments, applicants ask for reconsideration and allowance.

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-15, 17-21, 23, 24 and 29-40 are currently pending, of which claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 are independent. Claims 4, 10, 16, 22 and 25-28 have been cancelled, claims 29-32 have been withdrawn, and claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 have been amended. Support for the amendments can be found at least on page 14, line 22 to page 17, line 21 of the specification, and FIGS. 3A-3E and their related text, for example. No new matter has been presented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

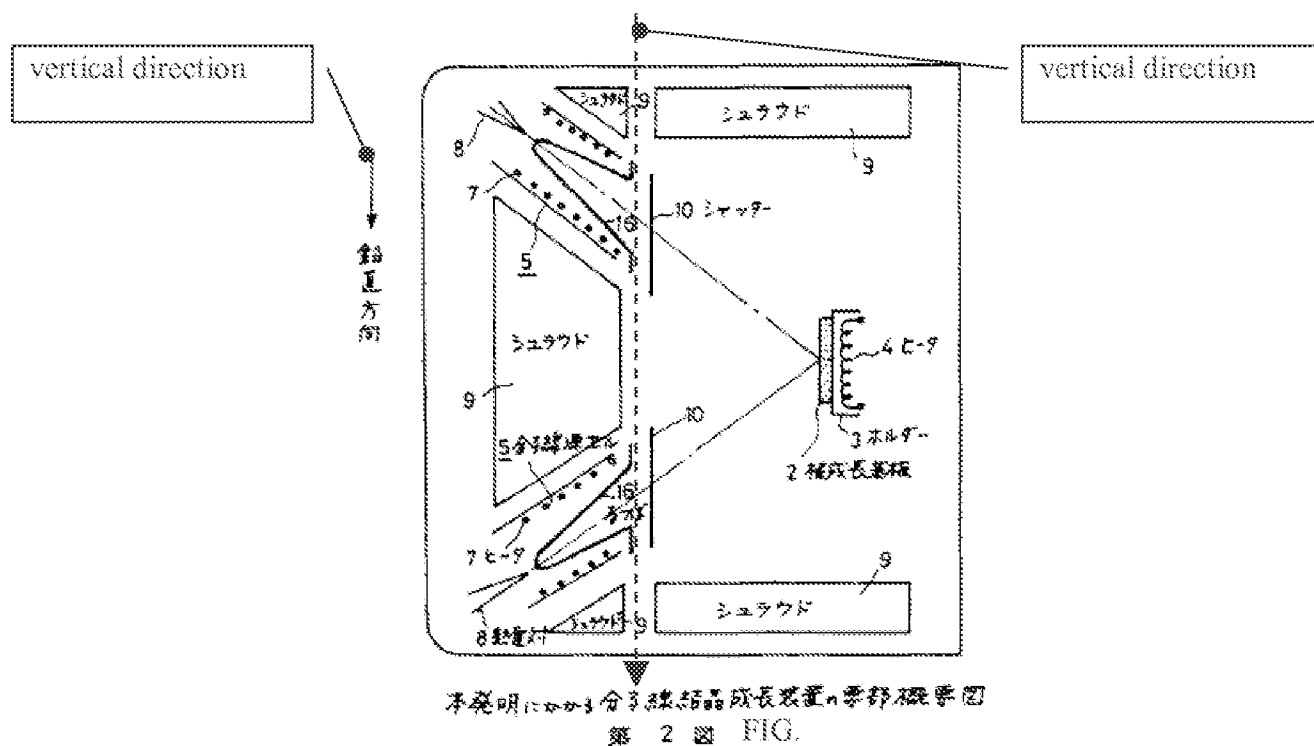
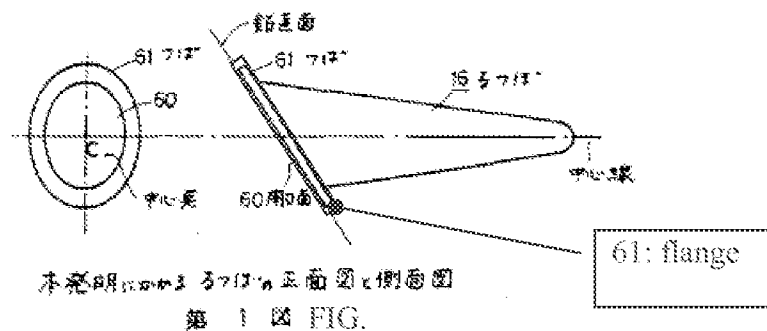
Claims 1-3, 5-6, 19-21, 23-24, 33 and 36 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arai (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0009538) in view of Aoshima (Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000223269A) and Saito (Japanese Patent Publication. No. 63-282190). With respect to independent claim 1, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection at least because neither Arai, Aoshima, Saito, nor any proper combination of the three describes or suggests that “an inclination of the first container is the same as an inclination of the second container,” and that “an inclination of the guide portion of the first container is different from an inclination of the guide portion of the second container, such that a direction of the opening of the first container is different from that of the second container,” as recited in claim 1.

Arai describes manufacturing a light-emitting device by forming a thin film by filling a small molecular organic electroluminescence material into an evaporation cell, and heating the material in an inert gas atmosphere to form a light emitting layer on a substrate (Arai: Abstract). With respect to FIG. 1, Arai discloses a gasification evaporation device that has a “control means 104 for moving the sample stage 103 in the horizontal direction, [and] control means 106 for opening and closing the shutter,” and with respect to FIG. 3, Arai discloses a structure of the evaporation chamber (A) 506 that allows the evaporation sources to be switched according to the kind of organic materials to be deposited (Arai: paragraphs 39, 41 and 51). Arai describes using

evaporation cells 109a-c (which are referred to as evaporation sources in the Office Action), but fails to provide any description regarding the shape or other features of the openings in the evaporation cells 109a-c (Arai: paragraph [0040], FIG. 1). Further, applicants submit that Aoshima, which is cited as showing features of the means adapted to move the first, second, and third evaporation sources (at FIGS. 1-2, paragraph 20), does not cure this deficiency of Arai.

Thus, Arai and Aoshima fail to describe that the inclinations of the first container and the second container are the same as each other, and that the inclinations of the guide portions are different from each other. In addition, the Office acknowledges on pages 4-5 of the Office Action that Arai and Aoshima fail to describe or suggest that either of the first container or the second container comprises an included guide portion having an opening.

Saito, which is cited as showing at least one of the first or second containers having an inclined guide portion, fails to cure the deficiencies of Arai and Aoshima. Saito shows in FIG. 1 and FIG. 2 (reproduced below) diagrams where reference numeral 61 represents a flange, and both of the flanges of the first container and the second container are aligned in a vertical direction, as indicted in the diagrams below.



The Office asserts that Saito discloses in FIGS. 1 and 2 that each of the first container (top 16) and the second container (bottom 16) comprises a guide portion (61) having an elliptical opening (60), where an inclination of the second container (with respect to an axis through a center the substrate), such that a direction of the elliptical opening of the first container (pointing downwards) is different than that of the second container (pointing upwards). However, Saito does not describe or suggest that the inclinations of the first container and the second container

are the same as each other, and the inclinations of the guide portions thereof are different from each other. For instance, in FIG. 2 of Saito, the first container (top 16) and the second container (bottom 16) are inclined and have different inclinations from each other, and that flanges 61 (guide portions) of the first container and the second container have the same inclinations (vertical direction) from each other. Hence, neither Arai, Aoshima, Saito, nor any proper combination of the three describes or suggests that “an inclination of the first container is the same as an inclination of the second container,” and that “an inclination of the guide portion of the first container is different from an inclination of the guide portion of the second container, such that a direction of the opening of the first container is different from that of the second container,” as recited in claim 1.

Moreover, the suggested combination of Arai, Aoshima and Saito cannot achieve the results of the recited features of claim 1 (MPEP 716.02). For example, by utilizing the recited features, the evaporation center can be adjusted without having to change the attachment angle of the evaporation source and without having to change the inclination of the heater of the evaporation source. Furthermore, as described and supported in paragraphs [0071], [0072] and FIGS. 3D and 3E of the specification, a space between the first container and the second container can be made narrow, thereby enabling the evaporation to be performed while mixing the evaporation materials uniformly. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims should be withdrawn.

Similarly, claim 19 is allowable over Arai, Aoshima and Saito, whether applied individually or in combination, which, for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, fail to describe or suggest that “an inclination of the first container is the same as an inclination of the second container,” and that “inclinations of the guide portions are adjusted such that evaporation centers of materials evaporated from the first container and the second container are aligned with one point on a substrate to be evaporated.” Accordingly, the rejection of claim 19 and its dependent claims should be withdrawn.

Claims 7-9, 11-12 and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arai, Aoshima, Saito and Konuma (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0030443). For reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claim 1, neither Arai, Aoshima, Saito, nor any proper combination of the three, describes or suggests that “an inclination of the first container is the same as an inclination of the second container,” and that “an inclination of the guide portion of the first container is different from an inclination of the guide portion of the second container, such that a direction of the opening of the first container is different from that of the second container,” as recited in claim 7. Konuma, which is cited as describing an aligning means that aligns a mask and a substrate for the purpose of providing a high-accuracy positioning, fails to cure the deficiencies of Arai, Aoshima, and Saito. For at least these reasons, the rejection of independent claim 7, and its dependent claims, should be withdrawn.

Claims 13-15, 17, 18 and 35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arai, Aoshima and Saito. For reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1, applicants ask for reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection at least because neither Arai, Aoshima, Saito, nor any proper combination of the three, describes or suggests that “an inclination of the first container is the same as an inclination of the second container,” and that “an inclination of the guide portion of the first container is different from an inclination of the guide portion of the second container, such that a direction of the elliptical opening of the first container is different from that of the second container,” as recited in independent claim 13.

Claims 37 and 40, which depend from claims 1 and 19, respectively, have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arai, Aoshima, Saito and Knauss (U.S. Patent No. 6,090,207). Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 19, and Knauss, which is cited as describing movement of a substrate and/or deposition sources during deposition, does not remedy the failure of Arai, Aoshima and Saito to describe or suggest the subject matter of independent claims 1 and 19.

Claim 38, which depends from claim 7, has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arai, Aoshima, Saito, Konuma and Knauss. Claim 39, which depends from claim 13, has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arai, Aoshima, Saito and Knauss. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 7, 13, 37 and 40.

All claims are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this paper. Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 15, 2011

/Dwight U. Thompson/
Dwight U. Thompson
Reg. No. 53,688

Fish & Richardson P.C.
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (877) 769-7945